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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL
PEACE AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

Letter dated 13 May 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Honduras
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the note of protest sent on 10 May 1985 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, Dr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann.

I should be grateful if you would have this text, the contents of which have already been brought to the attention of the Organization of American States, circulated as a document of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 25.

(Signed) H. Roberto HERRERA CACERES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Note dated 10 May 1985 addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Nicaragua by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras

I am writing to refer to the grave acts of aggression which the army of the Government of Nicaragua has been committing, causing serious harm to the Honduran population living in the area along the eastern border between the two countries.

Yesterday I received a visit in my office from the Deputy Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, Dr. José León Talavera. At that time, in the context of a conversation on regional and bilateral issues, I informed him, on behalf of the Government of Honduras, so that he could transmit our views to Your Excellency's Government, that the moderate stand taken by my Government in response to events such as those described above should not be construed as a sign of weakness since the Honduran Government and armed forces were firmly resolved to repel acts of aggression by every possible means and would do so in exercise of the right of self-defence provided for in international law.

At 11 a.m. today, at Arenales, in the area referred to above, four Hondurans were injured and one killed as a result of attacks carried out with heavy weapons of the Nicaraguan army. The five individuals were assigned to a frontier lookout post in Honduran territory. The dead man was a soldier and the wounded men were three soldiers and a non-commissioned officer of the Honduran armed forces. In addition to that criminal act, mention should be made of the destruction caused in various places in our country and the massive displacement of the Honduran population which has been the victim of the actions to which I have referred above.

The Government of Honduras expresses its most vigorous protest against these acts of aggression and reaffirms its unswerving determination to defend our country's territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

You must understand, Sir, that actions such as those cited above, set in motion by the Nicaraguan Government, aggravate the regional crisis in Central America, undermine the good intentions which sustain the peace-making effort of the Contadora Group, and tend to foster a generalized military conflict which the people and Government of Honduras do not want, since they firmly believe that the various conflicts must be settled through the peaceful and civilized means provided for in international law.

(Signed) Edgardo PAZ BARNICA
Minister
